

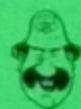


READING F.C.

Match Magazine 15p



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WIGAN

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Volume 33 No.3

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On The Inside With Maurice Evans



Four games four wins, "we have never had it so good", but lets not get carried away it's early days yet and there is a long hard season ahead.

Thank you for your vocal support even in the last 20 minutes against Rochdale when I thought we eased up and were content with our 2 goal lead. You still managed to keep behind the team and it was very much appreciated.

I was very annoyed about the last 20 minutes of that game because we let them off the hook and almost let them back into the game. Rochdale were a poor side on the night and we should have taken advantage and hammered them. Yes, we won and of course it's the end result that counts but I hope we have learnt from that game.

Today we welcome the league newcomers Wigan. They have made a fine start and no doubt will be trying

to make their presence felt. I wish both them and their Manager Ian McNeil good luck.

You will all know that today's match has been sponsored by Super Key who are opening a new store in the Meadowway Precinct just a mile up the road from the ground. Their Manager Bryn Williams has been a life long Reading Football Club supporter. So here's wishing him and Super Key best wishes for a successful year.

Maurice Evans

Match Ball Donors

1978	Opponents	Football Sponsored by:
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Oct 28	STOCKPORT COUNTY F.J. Williams Builder Ltd	
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1979		
Jan 5	HEREFORD UNITED Messrs A.H. Lansley	
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Mar 31	PORT VALE Western Thomson Controls Ltd.	
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Apr 16	ALDERSHOT Mr. Barrett	
Apr 25	DARLINGTON Martin & Pole Ltd. John D. Woods	Estate Agents
Apr 28	HALIFAX TOWN TA (Printers) Ltd.	
For Cup Games	Mrs E. Pentlin.	
	Messrs Huntley Boorne & Stevens	



The Royals Welcome

If at first you don't succeed - try, try, then try again.

That's exactly what Wigan Athletic did. Infact 35 times in all. That was the number of times the club applied for membership of the Football League before being accepted in June.

Wigan were elected at the expense of Southport but only after a second ballot. On the first both clubs had 25 votes but on the second vote Wigan collected 29 to Southport's 20.

The atmosphere in Wigan is really tremendous at the moment and after their fine start to the season, most supporters will be very disappointed if they do not finish above the halfway mark in the table.

Against Tranmere in the first leg of the Football League Cup first round tie, 2,000 supporters travelled to watch them draw 1-1. In the return leg at Springfield Park 8,500 saw them win 2-1.

The first league game of the season at Hereford last Saturday, ended in a goalless draw but again over a 1,000 fans travelled to support their team.

On Wednesday night Wigan had their first home league game of the season against Grimsby and hoped that the crowd would be in five figures.

Wigan played with five men across the back against Hereford - a scheme planned by manager Ian McNeill who wanted the club to get off to a good start in the League.

However, McNeill has promised that he will not play five men across the back again.

Wigan's strength is their defence but they are also renowned as an attacking side. In four pre-season friendlies, together with two League Cup games and

the opening League fixture, the club have only conceded four goals.

During the close season five free transfer signings have been made including the much experienced Ian Seddon, ex Bolton, Cambridge, Chester and Rochdale player.

All but one of last seasons part-timers have turned professional and in many cases players have taken a drop in wages.

Frank Corrigan was a steel erector and together with football took home a total of £135 a week. He is now taking home less than that.

Peter Houghton (centre forward) used to work night shifts at Ford's Hailwood plant and come straight off the shift to play on Saturdays.

Perhaps the most fortunate player is goalkeeper John Brown - the former Preston and Stockport custodian.

A baker by trade, Brown was made redundant by the bakery a week before Wigan were elected into the League. He was immediately offered professional terms by the club.

The most amazing story concerns manager Ian McNeill. The former Leicester and Brighton player came to Wigan in 1968 after managing Highland League side Ross County. In 1970 he was sacked by the then chairman, Mr A. Horrocks. Two years later when the club failed to get elected into the League, a disappointed Horrocks left the club to become a director and later chairman of Southport.

A new chairman re-appointed McNeill as manager some months later but six months after that Horrocks returned once again as Chairman!

WARNING

Following crowd behaviour at the Reading/Brentford fixture last season, the Football Association have directed the Reading Football Club to broadcast and publish warnings on crowd behaviour.

In accordance with their request we publish this notice asking spectators to behave at all times in an orderly manner and in particular to take great care when leaving the ground.

Meet the Referee

TONY D. COX (South Croydon). Began refereeing with Ilford Borough League in 1952. Progressed through Gt. London and South Essex Leagues to the Isthmian League before joining the Football League in 1972. Was linesman in the International - Northern Ireland v. Wales in 1975. Reserve linesman for the Centenary game between England and West Germany in the same year.

A married man with two children and is a company director dealing as a hide, skin and leather broker. Served as an amateur on West Ham's books and enjoys all sporting activities and overseas travel.

Wigan Athletic



Back Row: K. Smart, P. Houghton, N. Davids, G. Gay, J. Brown, F. Corrigan, N. Ward, J. Hinnigan, J. Wright
Front Row: L. McNeill [Manager] A. Crompton, I. Seddon, T. Gore, I. Gillibrand, J. Wilkie, I. Purdie, K. Banks [Trainer]

Pen Pictures

JOHN BROWN: Age 30. Ex-Preston and Stockport goalkeeper, now in his third season with Wigan.

KEVIN SMART: Age 19. Signed in close season on a Free transfer from Plymouth Argyle. Made 9 Second Division appearances and 33 Third Division appearances with West Country side.

JOE HINNIGAN: Age 21. Signed for a four figure fee from South Liverpool. Now in his fourth season at Springfield Park. Liverpool born.

JEFF WRIGHT: Age 24. Signed from Netherfield four seasons ago. Excellent play-maker and also gets a fair quote of goals. Born in Ailston.

NOEL WARD: Age 24. Signed from Aberdeen two seasons ago. Played for Portadown in Northern Ireland before being transferred to Aberdeen. Born in Strabane, Northern Ireland.

IAN GILLIBRAND: Age 29. Club skipper. Has been with the Club 10 seasons and has over 500 appearances under his belt. Signed originally from Arsenal.

FRANK CORRIGAN: Age 24. Signed from Northwich Victoria last season and has become a warm favourite at Springfield Park. Fine ball player.

TOMMY GORE: Age 25. Signed from Tranmere Rovers, now in his fifth season. Was player of the year 1977/78. Extremely powerful shot.

PETER HOUGHTON: Age 23. Signed last season and scored 10 goals in 17 games. Previously with South Liverpool in the Premier League. Very powerful Centre Forward.

JOHN WILKIE: Age 28. Leading scorer for the last two seasons. Very quick. Signed for a four figure fee from Elgin City in the Highland League.

IAN PURDIE: Age 25. Signed in the close season from Motherwell. Previously with Aberdeen and Dundee. Scottish Under 23 International.

ALAN CROMPTON: Age 20. Ex-Blackburn and Sunderland Inside Forward. Signed in the close season.

NEIL DAVIDS: Age 22. Ex-Leeds and Norwich Centre Half. Signed in the close season from Swansea City. Ex-England Youth International.

IAN SEDDON: Age 27. Signed from Rochdale in the close season. Ex-Bolton and Cambridge Inside Forward. Lots of experience.

MICKY WORSWICK: Age 31. Only member of the Northern Premier League side to remain part-time. Ex-Amateur International, has been an out-standing non-league player for the past 10 years. Very quick wingman.

GEORGE GAY: Signed on a free transfer from Southport in the close season.

MEMORY LANE

A LOOK AT SOME OF THE PAST EVENTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE ON 28th AUGUST

1921 READING RE-SIGN OLYMPIC HERO

Reading have had few, if any, better centre halves than Ted Hanney and so it was a great day for Elm Park fans when he returned to end his playing career in his home town. An amateur during our Southern League days he played several games for the England Amateur side and was a vital member of the Great Britain side that won the 1912 Olympic Gold Medal although an injury in the semi final kept him out of the final against Denmark.

Following this he turned professional and was soon transferred to Manchester City for a, then, massive £1250. Although the First World War interrupted his career he still commanded another big fee, £2500, when he moved to Coventry in 1919. In his one last season for Reading he captained the side, playing in all but one of the club's League fixtures. He then spent four years coaching in Stuttgart returning to become licences of the Russell Arms (now the Battle Inn). During the Second World War he assisted Reading's manager, Joe Edelman, in running an F.A. coaching scheme for boys.

1933 — LAST GOAL FOR RECORD GOALSCORER

When Reading played their first game of the season, against Exeter, 45 years ago they had three players making their debut for us. Albert Hayhurst, another of the club's great centre halves, Billy Wright from Bolton and Billy Butler, holder of three F.A. Cup winners medals with Bolton.

Butler, who later was to manage Reading, created Reading's first two goals, for Ted Harston and Albert Hayhurst, while Harston and Jack Oxberry combined for Joe McGough to give Reading a three goal lead by half-time. Reading could not maintain this goalscoring pace in the second half, the only other goal of the game coming from Exeter's Whitlow five minutes from time. That goal by Ted Harston was his last League goal for Reading and at the end of the season he was given a free transfer. After a season with Bristol City he joined Mansfield in October 1935 and began the sort of goalscoring run that few players even dream of. He scored a hat-trick within seven minutes on his debut and scored three or more goals on another five occasions within a

year. At the end of his first full season with Mansfield he had scored a Division 3 North record of 55 goals that still stands, in fact only George Carnell and Dixie Dean have ever scored more goals in a season than Harston. At the end of 1936-37 season he was transferred to Liverpool where he continued to score until a serious leg injury affected his career.

1944 — OUR BEST EVER START TO A SEASON

A good start to the season is always important and Reading have yet to better the win they achieved against Charlton, at the Valley, 34 years ago today. Charlton were one of the top sides during the War years but Reading, with players like Johnnie Mapson, "Tony" MacPhee, Maurice Edelman and Matt Busby available, could equal the best. In a devastating first half performance Reading scored six times without reply, the goals coming from Edelman 3, MacPhee 2, and Liverpool's Joe Fagan (now Liverpool's coach). In the second half Charlton scored twice but so did "Tony" MacPhee to bring his personal total to four goals, three of them headers, thus making the final result an 8-2 away win for Reading.

This was not the only season in which Reading had started the Regional War League off with eight goals — in 1941 they won 8-3 at Clapton Orient and in 1943-44 they won their first home game 8-2 against Watford.

1969 — GREAT GAME BUT NO POINTS

During his first season as Reading's manager, Jack Mansall's teams produced some very entertaining football but few games were as good as that played at Barnsley nine years ago. Reading had Bobby Williams making his League debut along with Barry Rowan who was making what was to be his only League appearance for us. After 17 minutes Dennis Allen scored a great goal, beating three defenders before shooting in from 20 yards. Three minutes later Barnsley's Earnshaw equalised but Roger Smees, married two days earlier, restored our lead with a brilliant volley. Right on half time Barnsley equalised through Bettany, the goal again coming after Reading had failed to clear a corner. Goals from Earnshaw and Evans in the first 10 minutes after half time appeared to saw the game up for Barnsley but after Bobby Williams pulled the score back to 4-3 Reading threw everything at the home side who somehow managed to hold on to their lead.

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Richie Bowman	David & John Filter (Basingstoke)	Ray & Liz, Pamber Heath			
Martyn Britten					
Ollie Kearns	L. Norris, Reading	Mr & Mrs Norris			
Martin Hicks	R. Robins, Reading				
Sean Price					
Paul Miles					
Dave Moreline					
Jerry Williams					
Gary Peters	Kevin Knowles Reading				
Steve Death					
Jim Gordon					
Lawrie Sanchez	Dave Weeks Jon Richards				
Mike Kearney					
Alan Lewis	RFSC Travellers F.C.	RFSC Travellers F.C.	RFSC Travellers F.C.	RFSC Travellers F.C.	RFSC Travellers F.C.
Wayne Wanklin	Kevin Knowles Reading				
Pat Earles					Mr Barrett Eton Wick
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ELM PARK

Reading's Steve Hetzke was in the thick of the action in the Football League Cup first round first leg tie against Gillingham at Elm Park.



K ACTION



Park.

Photographs by The Reading Chronicle



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FOCUS ON Q

CLUBS ARE BUSY

During the close season several clubs have been busy in the transfer market.

Stockport paid a record equalling transfer fee of £15,000 to sign Les Bradd from Notts County while Aldershot paid a club record fee for Torquay's David Tomlin.

One of the busiest clubs was York who completed seven signings. Big names dropping to the Division included Paul Reaney, the former England and Leeds player.

Below is a list of some transfers made in the division during the close season:-

SOME DIVISION FOUR CLOSE SEASON TRANSFERS

Mick Bates	— Walsall to Bradford City (£20,000)
Paul Reaney	— Leeds to Bradford City
Les Bradd	— Notts County to Stockport (£15,000)
David Tomlin	— Torquay to Aldershot (club record fee)
David Loggie	— Burnley to York
Alan Woollett	— Leicester to Northampton
David Bradley	— Manchester United to Doncaster (£10,000)
Jack Lewis	— Blackburn to Doncaster
Nigel Edwards	— Chester to Aldershot
Chris Topping	— York to Huddersfield
Martin Garry	— Newcastle to Hartlepool
Bobby Mitchell	— Blackburn to Grimsby
Mickey French	— Swindon to Doncaster
Andy Green	— Leicester to Aldershot
Ken Dodds	— Sunderland to Aldershot
Terry Shanahan	— Bournemouth to Aldershot
Ricky Walker	— Coventry to Northampton
Roy Key	— Celtic to York
Steve Faulkner	— Sheffield United to York

Barry Wellings	— Everton to York
Peter Stronach	— Sunderland to York
Neil Warnock	— Barnsley to York
Jimmy Walsh	— Watford to York
Paul Saunders	— Watford to Northampton
Peter Fletcher	— Stockport to Huddersfield
Steve Brooks	— Southport to Hartlepool
Keith Guy	— Newcastle to Hartlepool
Ian Crumplin	— Blue Star to Hartlepool
Jimmy Goodfellow	— Rotherham to Stockport
Stuart Lee	— Wrexham to Stockport
Roy Austin	— Millwall to Doncaster (on trial)

HISTORY OF READING FOOTBALL CLUB

Readers of this programme may be interested to know that one of Reading's regular supporters, David Downs, is planning to write a history of the club, from its foundation in 1871 to the present day. He would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has any old relics, photographs, souvenirs, or programmes connected with the club, or anyone with information or personal memories which they would like to contribute. David can be contacted at 16, Kirton Close, Reading.

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ROYAL'S RECORD

1978/79

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* Denotes Substituted 1 Denotes ester

1978	Sat	Aug	19	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	A	H
	Wed	Aug	30	SOUTHAMPTON	A	H
	Sat	Sept	2	ORIENT	A	H
	Wed	Sept	13	CRYSTAL PALACE	A	H
	Sat	Sept	16	IPSWICH TOWN	A	H
	Wed	Sept	20	OXFORD UNITED	A	H
	Wed	Oct	4	CARDIFF CITY	A	H
	Wed	Oct	11	FULHAM	A	H
	Wed	Oct	14	ARSENAL	A	H
	Wed	Oct	18	WEST HAM UNITED	A	H
	Tues	Oct	31	BRISTOL CITY	A	H
	Wed	Nov	1	QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS	A	H
	Wed	Nov	8	BIRMINGHAM CITY	A	H
	Wed	Nov	15	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	A	H
	Wed	Nov	18	SOUTHAMPTON	A	H
	Wed	Nov	22	ORIENT	A	H
	Wed	Nov	29	LUTON TOWN	A	H
	Wed	Dec	2	CHELSEA	A	H
	Sat	Dec	9	NORWICH CITY	A	H
	Sat	Dec	16	LEICESTER CITY	A	H
	Sat	Dec	20	BRISTOL ROVERS	A	H
	Sat	Dec	30	HEREFORD UNITED	A	H
	1979	Wed	Dec			
	Wed	Jan	3	SWINDON TOWN	A	H
	Wed	Jan	13	CRYSTAL PALACE	A	H
	Wed	Jan	17	IPSWICH TOWN	A	H
	Sat	Feb	3	OXFORD UNITED	A	H
	Sat	Feb	14	CARDIFF CITY	A	H
	Wed	Feb	17	FULHAM	A	H
	Sat	Feb	28	ARSENAL	A	H
	Sat	Mar	3	WEST HAM UNITED	A	H
	Wed	Mar	7	BRISTOL CITY	A	H
	Sat	Mar	17	QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS	A	H
	Sat	Mar	24	BIRMINGHAM CITY	A	H
	Sat	Mar	31	LUTON TOWN	A	H
	Mon	April	2	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	A	H
	Wed	April	4	CHELSEA	A	H
	Wed	April	11	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	A	H
	Mon	April	15	SWINDON TOWN	A	H
	Wed	April	18	LEICESTER CITY	A	H
	Tues	April	24	BRISTOL ROVERS	A	H
	Sat	April	28	NORWICH CITY	A	H
	Wed	May	2	HEREFORD UNITED	A	H

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LINE-UP

Reading

Blue & White Hoops

Team changes

1 Steve Death	
2 Garry Peters	
3 Mark White	.....
4 Richie Bowman	.....
5 Martin Hicks	.....
6 Paul Bennett	.....
7 Pat Earles	.....
8 Mike Kearney	.....
9 Ollie Kearns	.....
10 Lawrie Sanchez	.....
11 Alan Lewis	.....
12	.....

SCORE CHECK

Half-Time Scores

A Coventry	v	Norwich City.....
B Everton	v	Arsenal
C Queens Park Rangers	v	Nottingham Forest.....
D Southampton	v	Middlesbrough
E Tottenham Hotspur	v	Chelsea
F Charlton Athletic	v	Bristol Rovers
G Fulham	v	Burnley
H Orient	v	Wrexham.....
J Stoke City	v	Millwall.....
K Oxford United	v	Swansea City
L Shrewsbury Town	v	Swindon Town
M Bradford City	v	Barnsley.....
N Darlington	v	A.F.C.B'rmouth (3.15).
P Halifax Town	v	Grimsby Town
Q Newport County	v	Stockport C. (3.15)
R Rochdale	v	Aldershot (3.15)
S Torquay United	v	Hereford.....
T Wimbledon	v	Northampton Town
U York City	v	Doncaster Rovers.....
V Brentford	v	Chesterfield

Wigan

Blue/White Stripes

Team changes

1 John Brown	.....
2 Tommy Gore	.....
3 Joe Hinnigan	.....
4 Neil Davids	.....
5 Noel Ward	.....
6 Ian Gilliebrand	.....
7 Frank Corrigan	
8 Jeff Wright	
9 Peter Houghton	
10 John Wilkie	
11 Ian Purdie	
12	

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FORTHCOMING MATCHES

Reading [Elm Park]

Wednesday, 30th August,

Football League Cup [2nd. Round]

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS at 7.30 p.m.

Aldershot [Recreation Ground]

Saturday, 2nd September,

Football League

HALIFAX TOWN at 3.00 p.m.